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FAX COVER PAGE

DATE: March 22, 2006

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TO: United States Patent and Trademark Office
COMPANY: Examiner Richard R. Schafer, Art Unit 3733

FAX NUMBER: 571-273-8300
PHONE NUMBER:

FROM: Douglas A. Collier

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RE: Response to Office Action for U.S. Patent Application No. 10/631,241 to Burkus et al.

COMMENTS: I hereby certify that this correspondence is being facsimile transmitted to the United States Patent and Trademark Office at 571-273-8300 on:

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Client Matter No.: 333 MSDI-1

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PTO/SB/21 (09-04)

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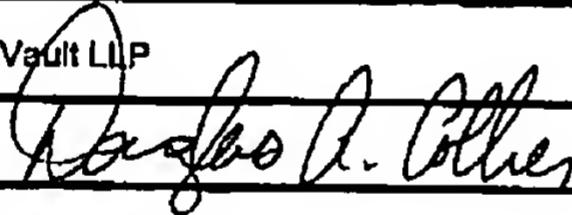
10

Application Number	10/631,241
Filing Date	July 31, 2003
First Named Inventor	J. Kenneth Burkus et al.
Art Unit	3733
Examiner Name	Richard R. Schaffer
Attorney Docket Number	4002-3388/PC381.18

ENCLOSURES (Check all that apply)

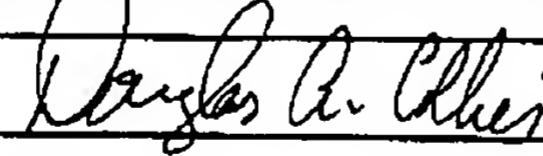
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SIGNATURE OF APPLICANT, ATTORNEY, OR AGENT

Firm Name	Krieg DeVault LLP		
Signature			
Printed name	Douglas A. Collier		
Date	March 22, 2006	Reg. No.	43,556

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Typed or printed name	Douglas A. Collier	Date	March 22, 2006

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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re patent application of:)
 Burkus et al.) Before the Examiner
 Serial No. 10/631,241) Richard R. Shaffer
 Filed July 31, 2003) Group Art Unit 3733
 METHODS AND INSTRUMENTATION) Atty Docket No. MSDI-132/PC361.16
 FOR VERTEBRAL INTERBODY)
 FUSION) March 22, 2006
)

RESPONSE TO NON-FINAL OFFICE ACTION

Commissioner for Patents
 P.O. Box 1450
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Sir:

In response to the non-final Office Action mailed December 22, 2005 please consider the following. Please provide any extensions of time which may be necessary and charge any fees due to Deposit Account 12-2424, but not including the payment of issue fees.

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Response to Non-final Office Action
 Ser. No. 10/631,241
 Atty Docket No. MSDI-132/PC361.16
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